



FARMERS SCORE UNFAIR TACTICS

Condemn Government and Press Stand on Strike



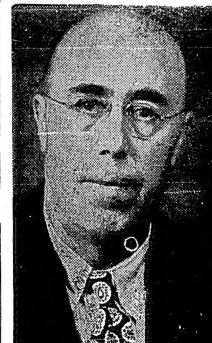
Big Three of the Canadian Congress of Labor Convention in the Royal York, Toronto, are shown having a friendly chat during sessions. Left to right: Pat Conroy, secretary-treasurer, A. R. Mosher, president and C. H. Millard, executive member.

DELEGATION IN OTTAWA

A.F.U. Accepts Gardiner Invitation to Meet Cabinet and Board

60,000 SUPPORT STRIKE

Farmers Claim No Attention Is Paid to Resolutions Sent to Government



CARL STIMPFLE,

who heads the A.F.U. delegation which left for Ottawa on Tuesday to place its views before the Farm Prices Support Board.

enrolled, and some 60,000 farmers supporting the strike.

In a radio broadcast on Thursday, Henry G. Young, A.F.U. Director for District 9, pointed to the democratic way in which the strike was started after a full vote of the members. And, he added, "If some of the gentlemen who are criticizing us for going on strike would first take a vote of the people who put them where they

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PERSONAL STUFF

BY E. E. R.

There is a lot more to the attitude of the Alberta government in the farm strike than appears on the surface. The Alberta Farmers Union was organized to do a job that many farmers believed wasn't being done by the United Farmers of Alberta. In every district where the A.F.U. was organized Social Credit supporters were in it, in many cases playing a leading role. They helped to build a pretty militant organization. The Secretary of the Union was a prominent Social Creditor. The government showed in many ways that it favored the A.F.U. and had little use for the U.F.A. This situation prevailed right up to the 1945 convention of the A.F.U. Then everything changed. A break between the Board of Directors and the Secretary became apparent at the convention. The delegates representing the rank and file gave almost unanimous backing to the Directors and repudiated the non-co-operative attitude of the Secretary. There was no politics in it, except on the part of the Secretary who had consistently used his position to promote the theory of Social Credit. It was unanimous, unequivocal action taken by the rank and file delegates, probably the large majority of whom were supporters of the Alberta government.

But the government took affront. An organization which they thought they had in their pocket turned out to have an independence of its own. Its membership wasn't composed of unquestioning little yes-men, but of men and women who knew where they were going and had no delusion of being an appendage of any political party, not even the one which was in power and which most of them had supported and were still supporting. There was no reason for the government to be sore about it. The delegates didn't rule against the former Secretary because he was a Social Creditor. Most of them were also Social Crediters, if not quite so fanatically as he. They ruled against him and in favor of the Board of Directors because he was wrong and the Directors were right, and they didn't care anything about his politics or religion or anything else. But the government, who put Mr. Nichols on the

(Continued on page 8)

Government Flouts Decision Parliament on Milk Subsidy

SEE REDUCED CONSUMPTION

By DORIS FRENCH

OTTAWA, (CPA).—The low-income city worker and the low-income farmer are left face to face with the problem of a bottle of milk. The government, as referee, has blown his whistle, tossed in the pucks, and withdrawn according to the rules of the game.

From September 30th on, milk will cost 15 cents a quart or more in most Canadian cities. This is a rise from 10 cents last winter, at which time the government paid out subsidies in order to hold down the cost of living on one hand, and maintain production on the other.

The withdrawal of the subsidy is in line with the government policy of decontrol. The consumer subsidy of 2 cents a quart (a W.P.T.B. action) was removed in May. The producer subsidy of 55 cents per cwt. is now removed despite the vigorous

(Continued on page 8)

LABOR VICTORIOUS IN AUSTRALIA VOTE

Although complete returns are not yet available, the Australian Labor government is assured of an overwhelming victory in the general elections held there last week-end. Its post-war policy of social security met with the general approval of the electorate who gave rousing majorities to Prime Minister Joseph Benedict Chifley and Dr. Herbert Evatt, minister of external affairs, who was leader of the Australian delegation to the Paris peace conference.

While tabulation had not been completed, at the time of going to press Labor was leading in 46 of the 75 constituencies. In the 1943 election Labor was returned in 49 constituencies with the two major seats and an independent one. Indications are that Labor will also make a clean sweep of the Upper House where it held 17 non-contested seats prior to Saturday's election.

Although voting was close on the government referendum for wider federal powers in connection with social legislation, it appears that this measure was turned down.

OTTAWA, (CPA).—"The refusal of the Government to continue the milk subsidy flouts a decision of Parliament and imposes an additional burden on those least able to bear it," said M. J. Coldwell, M.P., C.C.F. National Leader in a statement issued over the week-end. The immediate effect is a substantial increase in the price of milk of two or three cents a quart to the mothers of Canadian children. In the long run the farmers will suffer from a serious reduction in the consumption of fluid milk. Even now it is very doubtful if the farmer will receive his proper share of the increased cost to the consumer. It is certain that thousands of children will be denied adequate quantities of this vitally nutritious food. Consequently the whole nation will suffer.

The C.C.F. amendment adopted by a substantial majority in the House of Commons last month and the debate which occurred preceding its passage gave as explicit a directive to the Government as the rules of the House permitted. There could be no doubt that Parliament desired the continuance of the subsidy in the interests of the farmer, the consumer and of national nutrition.

The Prime Minister has disregarded his oft-repeated dictum, that "Parliament will decide."

This action of the government is another step in its policy of returning the economy to the anarchy of pre-war years. In the process the present and future welfare of the nation is being jeopardized.

SASKATCHEWAN REMOVES TAX ON FOOD AND DRINK

REGINA.—Necessity of grappling in purse or pocket for extra coppers required to pay the Education Tax will largely be removed for Saskatchewan residents after midnight, Monday, September 30, it was stated by Hon. C. M. Fines. The provincial treasurer was calling attention to the fact that application of the two per cent

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Labor Gov't Increases N.Z. Income by 123 Per Cent

By MAURICE KITCHING
CPA Correspondent

WELLINGTON, N. Z.—Opponents of the C.C.F. and of practical socialism everywhere are fond of saying, "But look at the taxes they pay," when the numerous benefits which the people of New Zealand enjoy are quoted to them.

It's true that our taxes have increased over the last ten years since we first elected our Labor government. But most of us are quite happy about that. The idea of getting something for nothing is not a socialist one, and we are willing to pay for the prosperity we enjoy.

What New Zealand's political opponents do not talk about is the enormous increase in private income and purchasing power, making full allowance for increased taxation, under Labor's sensible policy of spreading the nation's wealth.

The net aggregate private income of New Zealand in 1935 (that is the income left after deducting taxation) was \$52.7 million. Ten years later, though in the meantime New Zealanders had played their part in the war, had obtained a 40-hour week with compulsory paid holidays each year, and had built up the best social security scheme in the world, the net aggregate private

income was \$117.3 million—an increase of 123 per cent.

Effective Answer

This is an effective answer to the Conservatives' complaint that taxation is high in New Zealand. If they think taxation is high they must admit that income is high too.

High incomes have, of course, not been achieved without some rise in the cost of living. You can't pay everybody higher wages and still maintain a cheese-paring economy.

But the real test is real purchasing power, and in this test New Zealand does really well. After ten years of Labor government the real purchasing power of the people has risen by 60 per cent.

The introduction of the 40-hour week was greeted with cries of woe from the anti-Labor interests. It would retard production, they said. But in fact the reverse has happened. Production has increased all round, with the solitary exception of butter.

The total increase in the value of production over the last ten years has been 62 per cent.

The figures tell their own story. Under Labor administration the great majority of the people of New Zealand are enjoying unprecedented prosperity. Only the politically biased would want to go back to the "good old days" of low taxes—and extra low, if any, wages.

Premier Manning's Political Fence-Repairing

By J. E. COOK
PRESIDENT, ALBERTA C.C.F.

AT LEAST fourteen times in one day the people of Alberta over the radio news and business spots were advised to listen to Hon. E. C. Manning, Premier of Alberta, who was going to speak over the radio, on the topic, "The Farm Strike."

The strike is a serious matter. It is causing real loss to farmers in Western Canada themselves and it has interfered with the normal conduct of business on a wide scale. It has aroused fear in the minds of many that there may be shortages of food in homes of Canadian citizens right in the middle of the bread basket of the world.

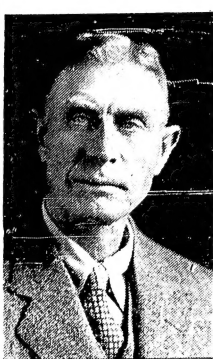
The strike was called by the Alberta Farmers Union because the members feel the farming profession in Canada as a whole is dangerously under-privileged. They feel that in this time of industrial and social readjustment in Canada the farmer must be decisive in attitude and action. The strike is, in effect, one against governments as powerful agencies in the arrangement of occupational group privileges and as the democratic titular representative of Mr. and Mrs. Public. The situation is tense, unprecedented. Farmers have been a submissive, compromising group in a society growing more and more violent. They never before refused to deliver their product at the price offered, even if that price had been unsatisfactory, discriminating and ruinous. The situation cries out for constructive thinking and effective action. Premier Manning spoke for thirty minutes. Everyone in Alberta hoped for some real contribution to a vital problem. On the subject of "The Farm Strike," Hon. E. C. Manning accordingly spoke, and what an effort it was.

Manning Scores C.C.F. and
Strikes

He disclosed first that the leader of the C.C.F. party in Alberta, Elmer E. Roper, was the chief villain in the strike. Mr. Roper is not a farmer, did not vote for the strike, was not asked and did not give any advice to any farmer either as an individual farmer or as a leader of a farm group. Mr. Roper, merely in his writings and in his radio talk criticized the policy of the government. Mr. Roper didn't even advise the government on what policy it was to follow.

On the other hand Mr. Manning, who freely condemned the farm strike, feels sure that the farmers of this province will note that Mr. Roper's support of the strike requests is only, thereby implying that the strike in itself has no merit.

The Premier discloses further that farmers are the chief losers as a result of the strike action and that they did not seek the advice of his government (against whom in part they are striking) before they took this action. "It is likewise clear to all that the business organizations suffering the greatest fi-



J. E. COOK,

in the accompanying article points to the fact that Premier Manning had not one constructive suggestion to offer in his 30-minute radio talk on the farm strike.

nancial loss as a result of the strike are the farmer's own co-operative marketing associations." "There are those," Premier Manning said, "who are proclaiming the strike an outstanding success but let us not overlook the fact that it is a success in only one respect. It has successfully penalized and inflicted financial loss, inconvenience and actual hardship not on those whose inaction is responsible for the strike but on the farmers themselves, on their own co-operative organizations and on their own friends and neighbors and fellow citizens in the villages, towns and cities of their own province."

This had been said before by Mr. Manning and the farmers had heard it. Mr. Manning said the government had expressed the view that the course of action being taken by the A.F.U. in calling the non-delivery strike was "ill advised from the farmer's own best interest," and likewise the farmers had heard it. Mr. Manning believes the government at Ottawa should request the "reasonable" request made to Ottawa. He sympathizes with the farmer in his position and demands.

But, Mr. Manning had, in the face of the seriousness of the loss to the farmer and the reasonableness of their demands, not one simple suggestion to offer in his thirty minute talk as a constructive idea for a settlement of the strike.

There is nothing that his government can do for the farmers to meet this reasonable demand, or Premier Manning would have mentioned it. But he loves the farmers and he detests the tactics of Elmer E. Roper, Provincial Leader of the

C.C.F. who does support the strike that his government does not support, and calls Mr. Roper's endorsement of the farmers' request "cheap political tactics." Obviously since he contributed nothing constructive or new as a solution the purpose of his thirty minute broadcast was for political fence-repairing and for no other purpose.

The farmers of Alberta, Mr. Manning thinks, do not know that they are causing themselves loss. The farmers of Alberta, Mr. Manning's whole broadcast implied, are not capable of deciding policies and electing leaders to carry out those policies and while Mr. Manning loves the farmers he has no confidence in their judgment. He should know because they elected him and his government. He even brags that the rural constituencies elected him one in Alberta. The evidence is certainly against the good judgment of the farmers, in that respect and it may be that Mr. Manning's broadcast will bear unexpected fruit in a better person of local mental capacity than the thoughtless, action! It may not be too much to hope.

Unfortunately what Mr. Manning has to say about the farmers bearing the greatest financial loss is true, but farmers knew that before the strike started and know it better now. That part is definite evidence that the farmer suffers a real sense of hurt in his social and economic position or he would not deliberately penalize himself financially to call attention to that fact. Or is he a person of low mental incapacity and irresponsible?

The inference that farmers are irresponsible and lacking in understanding of the cost to himself, and of recognizing the limits of his strike action, seems easy for Hon. E. C. Manning to accept. Elmer Roper found it harder to believe even if it be charged that his support is for political purposes only.

A perusal of Hon. E. C. Manning's speeches in the last two or three years will find that charge incorporated in almost all of them. It might be better that the great Manning should find some constructive action to offset the political claims of the opposing C.C.F. and assist the poor benighted farmers, for whom his heart bleeds, while his support goes to the business interests who support him and oppose the farmers. The fifty Big Shots of whom Mr. Manning used to speak so harshly are no longer opposing him.

The settlement of the strike is a vital question. A review of the government position is not very helpful, or it is? Later it may be.

GARDINER DRAGS SUPPORT BOARD FROM OBSCURITY

DOESN'T COVER WHEAT

OTTAWA, (CPA).—The little-known Agricultural Prices Support Board, which so far has spent scarcely any of the \$200,000,000 appropriated by Parliament in 1944 for bolstering farm prices, was dragged from obscurity last week by Agriculture Minister J. G. Gardiner to answer the demands of striking Alberta farmers for a "parity price board."

The minister's statement, made on his return to Ottawa on September 25, had been awaited by the farmers since the strike began three weeks ago. The farmers are withholding their produce to force the government to consider the relationship of their prices to the industrial side of the economy. Mr. Gardiner stated that the government saw no need for a parity price board, since the Agricultural Prices Support Board under J. G. Taggart is in existence. "I suggest that you arrange to have your views placed before this Board for consideration, analysis and presentation to the government," Mr. Gardiner told the farmers.

Doesn't Include Farmers

While legislation providing for the Board was passed during the 1944 session of Parliament, it did not come into effect until April of this year. Its tentative members, A. M. Shaw and J. S. Booth, both senior officials of the Agriculture Department, are to be replaced by permanent personnel whenever the Board gets down to active work, but it will continue as a 3-man government board with organized agriculture "advising" from the outside.

The demand of the Alberta and Saskatchewan farmers is for a Board with members appointed directly by farmers, labor, business and government.

Another major limitation on the Prices Support Board, from

the farmers' viewpoint, is the fact that it does not take wheat, which of course figures largely in any consideration of "parity."

The Prices Board was created both to determine prices and to buy and sell farm produce other than wheat. In direct government trading it was to make up any difference between fixed prices and the average market price, and it was also to subsidize the producers in their transactions on the open market. Thusfar the Board's \$200,000,000 has served mainly as working capital for the transactions of various export boards in farm products, where there has been little if any loss to be recouped.

Significantly, the recent government action to discontinue milk subsidies was taken without reference to the Prices Support Board. Its role in the past has been so obscure that although the A.F.U. has accepted an invitation to appear before the Board it is not likely to regard it as a satisfactory substitute for the thorough investigation it demands.

10-Year Building Program, Australia

MELBOURNE, Australia.—The National Works Council of Australia has decided on a public housing and building program which, together with private buildings, will provide employment for a minimum of 130,000 men for the next 10 years. Making this announcement, Prime Minister Joseph B. Chifley said the program envisaged the employment of at least 40 per cent more people than in the prewar building peak. He said the prewar instability of building activity and employment must be eliminated. The ten-year program, in addition to housing, would provide for the creation of hospitals, schools, factories and other buildings. The housing objective would be 60,000 new dwellings yearly, or 20 per cent above the 1939 output.

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BOTH WERE CONSISTENT

THE FARM strike created a situation in which public leaders in Alberta were called upon to declare themselves on one side or the other. Premier Manning came out against the farmers' non-delivery protest. The Leader of the C.C.F. on behalf of his party took his stand on the side of the farmers. The Premier and the daily newspapers, whose darling he has become, accuse the C.C.F. Leader of "cheap political trickery" because he supported the farmers.

But even if Mr. Manning can convince the farmers that the C.C.F. is merely "playing cheap politics" in its support of the farmers, that does not appear to offer a very good excuse for the government's own betrayal.

The fact is that in the line-up of party leaders on the strike issue there has been revealed the fully-developed Toryism of the present Alberta government on the one hand, and the consistent support of the people's struggles by the C.C.F. on the other.

ALL-TIME NEWSPAPER LOW

BOTH EDMONTON newspapers have a "rule" against publishing reports of radio addresses. Leaders of the farm strike have been making radio addresses dealing with various phases of the strike. The Leader of the C.C.F. on behalf of his group in the legislature made a radio address supporting the farmers in their fight. In connection with these addresses the "rule" not to report radio speeches was rigidly adhered to.

But the Premier of the province, who had a blast to make against the strike, and against those who were on the side of the farmers in their struggle, made a radio address. The "rule" was forgotten and the Premier's speech—especially that part of it which was in reply to the speeches the papers refused to report!—was reported fully.

Edmonton papers have been comparatively fair in their news columns in the past. But everything in the way of fairness or impartiality or objectivity in newspaper reporting went by the board in the farm strike. All the things unfavorable to the farmers have been played up in banner headlines. All the things favorable to the strikers have been ruthlessly suppressed. In addition, alleged news stories, such as those written by a man named O'Neill, have been so viciously weighted against the striking farmers as to make Mr. William Randolph Hearst, recognized as the world's worst in unscrupulous newspaper tactics, envious of the all-time low achieved in Edmonton.

REGIMENTATION

MEMBERS of the Alberta government talk a lot about "regimentation" and "economic freedom". Much of this is to cover up the fact that no provincial government has done more to regiment people by licenses and otherwise, always accompanied by another fee to be paid. At the present time a principle is being established by the government that has a distinct bearing on the question of regimentation and economic freedom.

The Department of Education has announced that it is making money available to attract students to the faculty of education at the university for teacher training. Everyone is, of course, fully aware of the shortage of teachers and it is right and proper that assistance should be given to enable young people to fit themselves for the teaching profession. But to give assistance only to those who will take teacher training has the effect of forcing people into that occupational groove, or to forego advanced education if they are without means.

In other words the Alberta government is saying: "If you have money you can have a choice of your profession. If you are dependent upon assistance from the government you must become a teacher, or do without university training". That's regimentation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Australian Labor government was under strong fire from practically all the leading newspapers of the country during the election campaign. The people of this Commonwealth are not easily stampeded however, and so they completely disregarded the advice so freely given by the daily press and went out and gave the Labor administration an impressive majority. Somehow the people of Australia like the idea of a program designed to improve the living standards of all the people.

For Canadians, a disappointing aspect of the I.L.O. conference at Montreal is the absence of provincial representatives at its sessions. Although credentials were issued to seven of the provinces (all but B. C. and P. E. I.) only two provincial ministers have so far been in attendance: C. C. Williams of Saskatchewan and W. E. Mooers of New Brunswick. Yet the provinces have jurisdiction over most of the matters adopted by the I.L.O.

THE THIRD COLUMN

STRIKERS' WIVES COULD TELL THEM

"Mr. Irvine: Yes; I am going to show my hon. friend that the people who could give the proper evidence were not even called (before the Industrial Relations Committee). When you want to find out the costs of a company's operation you call the company directors or its management to tell you. When you want to know the cost of living you should call the wives of the striking steel workers to tell you how much it costs to keep five children in school, to feed them to clothe them, to educate them and to look after the homes.

"Mr. Burton: They are worried only about the widows and orphans afterwards."—Hansard, August 22.



DOING NICELY, THANK YOU!

"Great Britain has come a long way on the road back to normal. We have a good bit to go yet but things are coming back and we have made great strides towards getting the country settled.

"As a matter of fact," he remarked, "we are more settled than most countries. More so even than Canada, at least we had no long strikes there."—Sir John Anderson, chairman of British Atomic energy committee, in an interview in Calgary Herald, September 26.



NEITHER, FISH, FLESH NOR FOWL

"At the risk of being unpopular, I venture to state that the most confusing menaces in the world today are not the Hytnes, the Churchills and the like, who can be counted upon for a good old reactionary capitalist line, but the Mackenzie Kings and the Wallaces, who speak fair and progressive words, who laud world organization and advocate friendship with the Soviet Union, but who either will not or cannot realize that all talk of peace is futile unless we take steps to build a world which is democratic, which is socialistic, and which feeds and educates all people. It is these fair words, together with the blind, leading the blind farther and farther into the wilderness. . . He (Wallace) wants to have his cake and eat it too. He wants milk for Hottentot babies and cream for profiteers. That sort of thing doesn't make sense. He is neither fish, flesh nor fowl, nor good red herring. Had he been an orthodox capitalist, he would have been President of the United States today. Had he declared himself a socialist, he could have led an American third party, which would have been, together with British Labor, the hope of the world. But he is in no-man's-land and American liberals with him."—Dorothy G. Steeves in C.C.F. News.



SOCIETY AT FAULT

"I'm afraid there are no proper facilities in the province (Alberta) for looking after boys who get in wrong. The police may think they are doing a good job, but it's the good interests of the province to keep under supervision these boys after they get into trouble. I'm afraid they're not making much of a success of it." (Neil Maclean, defence counsel, during trial of four young boys in Edmonton, September 20.)

"Mr. Justice Ford interrupted to say he wondered if 'any of us are making a success of it. It is not limited to the police. Society in general is at fault.'—Edmonton Journal, Sept. 26.

- FOOTPRINTS -

By J. P. Griffin

"Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

THIS admonition follows an address that points out the harmful effects of worrying about ourselves. Modern science is in complete agreement here with what the Teacher said, for we have learned anew that worry is one of the greatest killers of all time.

This habit of worrying arises from the sense of insecurity that most of us feel in the competitive society in which we live. We worry about "what we shall eat, what we shall drink, and where-withal we shall be clothed." Yet the birds of the air are provided for, and the lilies of the field that neither toil nor spin have their wants supplied. Can we not expect equal provision for our wants too? And of course we can. Nature has fully provided for us all.

Over the prairies where now the gophers are fighting a losing battle with the rattlesnakes, before men had stripped the Eastern slopes of the Rockies of their protective screen of timber, countless herds of buffalo lived in peace and comfort. On the Western Plains far to the South game once abounded in almost unbelievable numbers, and flights of birds literally darkened the sun as their numbers fell upon the astonished pioneers.

On the great peninsula of India in bygone days there was enough for all. Then communal ownership guaranteed to each family group an economic security that has now scarcely more reality than an almost forgotten dream. Before the

system of private ownership, rent, and taxes was imposed upon that familiar economy by the East India Co., before men were evicted from their villages, driven by British Imperialism as workers to the great cities, there to starve on the streets, or inhabit some of the foulest slums on earth, before the West had set its blood-stained boots upon the throat of the East, they knew something of security and peace.

It is doubtful if mass starvation would ever have cursed humanity if they had not sought, in ignorance and greed, some other kingdom than the kingdom of God. For the fact that people all over the world do worry (however uselessly) about food, clothing and shelter, proves that something fundamental has gone wrong. The reason why people "have not" is, generally speaking, because someone has stolen that which they ought to have. The means by which they could provide themselves with an abundant life have been taken from them, and modern industry seems to be committed to a policy of charging humanity an impossible price for the necessities of life that birds and beasts get for nothing.

We need a kingdom of organized brotherhood, of men who will share all of nature's bounty with one another, the full. What we cannot do alone, in competition with each other, we can do together as friends. Why go on worrying alone? Food, clothing, shelter, security, abundance, "all these things shall be added" unto you when you put God's kingdom, the co-operative way of life, first.

CCYM -- VOICE OF YOUTH

By Helen McTaggart,

CCYM Vice-President and Publicity Convener, Saskatchewan Section

THE C.C.Y.M. was born in Winnipeg in 1934, when a handful of eager young beavers journeyed hundreds of miles by train, by jalopy, and on foot to create the organization that was able, within twelve years, to hold a national convention in Regina with representation from every province in Canada. That is a record to be proud of. The delegates to the 1946 C.C.Y.M. convention were very proud as they listened to Doris French's presidential report and heard how a group of struggling provincial sections became welded, during the past two years, into a closely-knit movement. They heard how that movement has even reached out to form international bonds with socialist youth in other lands.

But, while the future is bright with promise and the past has been marked with achievement, we are still faced with tough spots and problems and obstacles to be overcome. One or two provinces, notably Alberta and Manitoba, have been faced with greater odds than the others. We must strengthen those weaker links.

Need CCYM in Alberta

We need a strong, active CCYM movement in Alberta. Moreover, the CCYM needs a strong youth section there, because the wellspring of a party dry up and the stream becomes stagnant when it is not constantly being renewed by the freshness of youth. The Liberal and Conservative parties know that, and they are secretly very worried about the predominance of hoary heads in their ranks; consequently, they are striving furiously and desperately to create youthful appendages to adorn their party machines. Nourished by free publicity, conceived through the wishful thinking of greybeards, and fanned solely by party funds, these mushroom organizations spring up briefly at election time and then expire for lack of anchorage or purpose. The Social Crediters are in an even more pitiful state. Not yet realizing that they need a youth

movement, they are still flexing their political muscles and innocently rejoicing in their own youth!

But the C.C.Y.M., like Topsy, "just grew". The C.C.Y.M. sprang up voluntarily out of the enthusiasms and desires of youth to have some part in remedying the evils of the society they knew, and, therefore, has within itself the spark that keeps it alive.

Study and Play

We have a purpose noble enough to appeal to the most crusading spirit. It is this: "To interest the youth of Canada in socialism, and to promote a system of society whereby the principles regulating production, distribution and exchange shall be the supplying of human needs and not the making of profits." And, in addition, to have a fellowship lively enough to satisfy the most gregarious social butterfly.

In succeeding issues, this column will carry articles dealing with the organization of C.C.Y.M. Units, planning of programs, suggestions for study and recreation. All that is needed now is a spontaneous upsurge of interest and enthusiasm on the part of the young people of Alberta. Your efforts will be applauded by every C.C.Y.M.er in Canada, and your success will encourage us all!

Profits Increase Faster Than Sales

WASHINGTON.—Claims of business spokesmen that it is unprofitable to operate under price controls sound pretty thin in the light of a financial statement just put out by the May Department Stores. For the first six months of 1946, it reveals, net profit increased about 250 per cent over the same period of last year.

More significant is the disclosure that profits increased more rapidly than sales, which showed a 72 per cent boost for the same period. The moral seems to be that in fixing prices OPA has done no harm to department stores.

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your partner both have a grand
time.

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babbitted bearings and
complete with Zerk
grease fittings.
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EDMONTON, ALBERTA

Australian Press Attache Is Here In Course of Tour

Mel Pratt, Press Attache,
Australian High Commissioner's
Office, Ottawa, was a visitor to
the People's Weekly Office on
Tuesday morning. A great many
of the article and stories on
Australia appearing in this and
other papers are released through
Mr. Pratt's office. Mr. Pratt is
returning to Ottawa following a
trans-Canada tour in the course
of which he has met many of the
editors who receive his news re-
leases.

The return of the Labor govern-
ment in Australia was not un-
expected, he said.

STEEL BARONS PUT UP A STRONG FIGHT

By KENNETH C. RATHBONE
CPA European Correspondent
LONDON, Eng.—The steel bar-
ons are putting up a strong fight
against the Labor government's
plan for the nationalization of im-
portant sections of the iron and
steel industry. The iron and
steel industry is the real core
of capitalist power in Britain and
the Big Business magnates realize
that once they have been pushed
out of heavy industry, their power
will be considerably undermined
and their influence will quickly
wane. They have to the govern-
ment that they will not offer their
co-operation during the change-
over period.

When the government set up an
Iron and Steel Board, consisting of
workers and employers under an
independent chairman, to exercise
some limited public control of the
industry during the interim period,
and to advise the government on
nationalization, the iron and steel
capitalists refused to serve on the
board. The government has now
compromised by dropping the sec-
tion referring to the advice on na-
tionalization and it now looks as
if the steel employers will serve
on this interim board.

British Miner Secretary To Speak at Edson

SAM WATSON ON NATIONAL TOUR

The annual constituency con-
vention for Edson will be held at
Merco on Friday, October 25,
commencing at 7 p.m. This con-
stituency is indeed fortunate in
that the convention guest speaker
will be Sam Watson, Secretary of
the Durham Miners' Union and
an executive member of the Brit-
ish Labor Party. Mr. Watson will
also address a public meeting
which will commence at 8:30 p.m.

ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

JACK GRIFFIN

Cardston Constituency
Monday, Oct. 7—Twin Butte.
Tuesday, Oct. 8—Hillspring.
Wednesday, Oct. 9—Glenwood.
Pincher Creek Constituency
Tuesday, Oct. 15—Pincher Creek.
Wednesday, Oct. 16—Lundbreck.
Thursday, Oct. 17—Cowley.

Macleod Constituency
Monday, Oct. 21—Spring Point.
Tuesday, Oct. 22—South Macleod.
Wednesday, Oct. 23—Granum
District.
Thursday, Oct. 24—Five Mile
School.
Friday, Oct. 25—White Lake.
Monday, Oct. 28—Nobleford
District.
Tuesday, Oct. 29—Picture Butte.
Wednesday, Oct. 30—Diamond
City.
Friday, Nov. 1—Kipp.

NELLIE PETERSON

St. Albert Constituency
Monday, Oct. 14—Carbondale.
Tuesday, Oct. 15—Gibbons.
Wednesday, Oct. 16—Bon Accord.
Thursday, Oct. 17—Calahoo.
Alexandra Constituency
Monday, Oct. 21—Watson School.
Tuesday, Oct. 22—Paradise
Valley District.
Wednesday, Oct. 23—Rivercourse
District.
Friday, Oct. 25—Blackfoot.
Monday, Oct. 28—Clear Range
School.
Tuesday, Oct. 29—Green Lawn
Hall.
Wednesday, Oct. 30—Frog Lake
Hall.
Thursday, Oct. 31—Landonville.
Friday, Nov. 1—Allandale School.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. King

If parental example has any-
thing to do with it then David
Terence should be a shining light
in the C.C.F. movement a few
years hence. At present he is
absorbed with his own immediate
problems at the Royal Alexandra
hospital where he was born to
Mr. and Mrs. John King on Sat-
urday, weighing in at 8 pounds 5 oz.
Political interest in the King
family is not confined to the
C.C.F. Provincial Secretary for
Mrs. King, in addition to attend-
ing to the needs of a young
family, which is now composed
of four boys and one girl, has
found time to become the enor-
gic president of the New Common-
wealth Club. Congratulations Mr.
and Mrs. King!

CARS COST MORE HERE BUT MEN GET LESS PAY

TORONTO, (CPA).—Statistics
show that average hourly earnings
in the automobile industry are
32.1 points lower in Canada than
in the United States, while car
prices in Canada are hundreds of
dollars over U.S. prices.

U.S. Canada Diff.
WAGES 124.6 92.5 32.1 less
PRICES: (January, 1946)
Plymouth
Sedan \$ 990. \$1295. \$305. more
Dodge
Sedan \$1086. \$1307. \$221. more
Chrysler
Royal \$1204. \$1783. \$579. more
DeSoto \$1209. \$1862. \$653. more

LETHBRIDGE CONVENTION

Lethbridge Provincial Constitu-
ency Association will hold its an-
nual convention in the Trades and
Labor Hall, Lethbridge, on Mon-
day, October 7, commencing at
8 p.m. Dr. F. McIntosh, a promi-
nent worker in the Calgary Labor
movement, will attend. It was also
planned for Elmer E. Roper to
address the Convention but un-
fortunately the serious illness of
a member of his family will pre-
vent his attendance. Efforts are
being made to provide a sub-
stitute speaker from the Provin-
cial Executive.

PROJECTOR FUND

Previously
acknowledged \$515.50
Wetaskiwin Provincial
Constituency Ass'n. 66.00
Total \$581.50

CALGARY STUDY GROUP

With real interest and enthusi-
asm, sparked by Bert Ryan's well
—prepared speech on "Confisca-
tion or Compensation—How the
C.C.F. will take over Industry and
Resources," the Calgary C.C.F.
Study group started its winter
meetings with the indication of a
worthwhile effort.

Mr. Ryan treated the whole
subject objectively, and enriched
his speech with ample documen-
tary and statistical quotations.
From well chosen facts he reason-
ed that a complete change-over
of the industrial life of a country
motivated for private profit, to
one for social well-being, was
such a gigantic task that it could
be accomplished only by a revolu-
tion; that the C.C.F. must have the
power to legislate as well as to
form a government, or it will be
able to make only abortive at-
tempts as did the former British
Labor government.

The fact that the United States
investments in Canada totalled
735 millions, in addition to Brit-
ish and Canadian investments,
indicates the staggering sums
which have to be dealt with, said
Mr. Ryan, but he disagreed with
the theory that the market value
of stocks and share should be
paid as compensation.

Mrs. Fairy Walker presided
over the discussion which followed
the address, the general feeling
seemed to be that a commission
should set the value to be paid,
and although confiscation was the
fairest way to reclaim for the
workers the product of their
labor, public opinion was not
likely to support it, but if no
interest was paid on the stocks,
the profits would in due time
reach the masses of the people
by means of social legislation.

The meeting agreed that the
C.C.F. policy of gradual national-
ization was feasible and necessary
because of the gigantic task, and
the absolute need of consolidating
and progressive action.

The October meeting will be
held on the 15th, in the Reliance
Hall, with J. H. Coldwell, ex-
candidiate in the Bow River
Riding, leading the discussion on
the topic "The C.C.F. Agricul-
tural Policy." Mr. Knutson will be
chairman.

Mr. and Mrs. Roper Take Daughter to The Mayo Clinic

Elmer E. Roper, M.L.A., C.C.F.
Provincial Leader, will be unable
to fill a number of speaking en-
gagements he had made for the
month of October. He and Mrs.
Roper left on Monday for
Rochester with their daughter
Gwen, who has been seriously ill
for the past six months. She will
enter the Mayo hospital for treat-
ment.

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From (Name)

Address

Application for C.C.F. Membership

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for membership in the
Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and promise to
support the Economic Program of the C.C.F. as laid down
by Annual Conventions from time to time and to abide by
the Constitution, and hereby state that I am not a member
or active supporter of any other political party.

Sustaining Membership \$10.00 or more
General Membership \$1.00

Signed Name (please print).

Address

Federal Constituency

Provincial Constituency

Make Yours Sustaining

LABOR CONGRESS ENDORSES C.C.F. AT CONVENTION

TORONTO, (CPA).—Climaxing a stormy attack on Communist policies in the trade union movement by Secretary-Treasurer Pat Conroy, the convention of the Canadian Congress of Labor here re-endorsed by an overwhelming vote the proposal that the C.C.F. should be the "political arm of labor."

The CCL endorsed the C.C.F. at its 1943 convention in Montreal, and during Ontario and Federal elections last year the Political Action Committee of the CCL campaigned for the C.C.F.

An amendment moved with LPP support asking for "independent, non-partisan" political action was given a rough ride and defeated by a three to one vote.

The death-knell of the communist manoeuvre was wrung by fiery Pat Conroy, CCL secretary-treasurer.

L.P.P. Sabotage

The Political Action Committee of the CCL had been "sabotaged" by those speaking for the amendment" during the last election, he continued, and the saboteurs were members of the Labor-Progressive Party.

The Communists are playing their "historic role" of trying to eliminate political competitors from the scene and would like to control a non-partisan Political Action Committee.

"As I see it—and I'm taking the gloves off now—the issue at this convention is whether the LPP will dominate this convention, or whether it will remain in the hands of its members," he said.

Places Canada First

"I say, let us speak for Canada now," he went on. "Let us speak for the Canadian people. We have but one choice to make: stand by our own institutions, fashion our own principles, or else we'll lose all that we hold dear in this Canada of ours."

As Conroy concluded his stirring address, urging continued trade union support of the C.C.F. as

the political arm of labor in Canada, the delegates rose and cheered. It was the best ovation of the convention.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS WINNERS IN SWEDEN

By REGINALD SPINK
CPA Correspondent

STOCKHOLM, (CPA).—The attempt of the anti-socialist bloc to smash the labor majority in the Swedish local elections on September 15, ended in failure.

"Though the Liberals gained 74 seats in all and the Farmer Party 36, the gains were mostly offset by Conservative losses. Most of the 82 seats lost by the Social Democrats went to the Communists.

The importance of the election lay in the fact that the city and county councils elect the members of the Senate, one-eighth each year. The Social Democrats have a clear majority of 86 in a Senate of 150, but a serious setback now might have endangered this majority.

As it is, the result will have no effect on the Government position or its policy.

The election was conducted with great bitterness by the opposition, and almost exclusively on the Government's program of socialist planning:

Anti-Planners Fail

The anti-planners, known as "P. H. M." (Planhushallnings-Motstandet—literally "Planned Economy Resistance") had serious hopes of breaking the long rule of Social Democracy, almost unbroken since 1932—and they failed.

The Communists were unusually reserved in their attacks on the Social Democrats at this election. They have no program of their own to speak of but have appropriated the post-war Social Democrat policy.

In other words, the Government can proceed with this policy without serious hindrance from either right or left.

The full results (for the six major towns and for the counties) in number of seats and percentage of votes is as follows. The figures

in parentheses indicate the percentage at the last local elections in 1942.

Social Democrats 743—44.7 per cent. (50.3 per cent.)

Liberals 252—15.6 per cent.

Conservatives 212—14.4 per cent.

Farmer Party 247—13.8 per cent.

Communists 99—11.3 per cent. (5.9 per cent.)

It will be seen that the combined percentage of Social Democrats and Communists is practically the same as at the previous election. The result was a disaster for the Conservatives, who fell from second to fourth position among the parties. For the first time since 1914 the Liberals became the second largest party.

Incidentally, the results were better for the Social Democrats than had been predicted in a Gallup poll some months ago. This is taken as an indication that the opposition has already passed its peak, and that the elections for the Riksdag two years hence will give the Government increased support.



NEWS

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● If you are one of the thousands of Canadians who started buying bonds in the very first Victory Loan, you certainly are lucky. Even if you bought bonds in only a few of the loans, you still are lucky. You have your bonds tucked away for a rainy day. You're getting extra income by cashing the coupons regularly.

With the war over, the question was whether or not Canadians still wanted to keep on buying bonds. To find the answer to this question, thousands of people all over the country were asked if they wanted to continue their wartime savings habit. Eight out of ten of those asked said

they were anxious to keep on saving—by buying bonds.

In answer to this demand, Canada Savings Bonds will go on sale soon. They will be issued in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1000. The interest yield will be attractive. The bonds will be registered, providing protection against loss. They can be cashed at any time at full face value, with interest, at any branch in Canada of any chartered bank.

Complete details will be announced in this paper on Monday. Watch for this announcement, and make plans now to buy the new Canada Savings Bonds.

8 out of 10 will buy again....

Canada Savings Bonds

A BIT OF Nonsense

Working our way back eastward, we pause in Saskatchewan for a little story harvested along with this year's bumper wheat crop. It's about a rural Sunday schoolteacher questioning her pupils on the day's lesson—maybe it's even true.

"Who is it that provides you with food and clothing?" she asked. A young lad replied promptly, "Please, teacher, it's Jimmy Gardiner."

She tried again: "Who is it that helps you to succeed in everything you do? Another pupil volunteered this time—but with the same answer: 'Jimmy Gardiner.'"

Teacher made one last try: "Who is it that sends the sunshine to your lives and helps you to be loving and kind to one another?"

An earnest little girl raised her hand, "Please, teacher, it is God." But almost before she finished she was pounced on by one of the boys—"You shut up, you little CCF'er!"—Parade.

Two lady schoolteachers from Brooklyn, exploring Western Canada, stopped at a small, old-fashioned hotel in Alberta. One of them, inclined to be worrisome, couldn't rest until she had toured the corridors in search of fire exits. The first door she opened however, turned out to be that of the public bath, occupied at the moment by an elderly gentleman taking a shower. "Oh, excuse me!" the flustered lady stammered. "I'm looking for the fire escape," and ran for it. She hadn't gone far when she heard a shout behind her. To her dismay, the gentleman, wearing only a towel, was running after her. "Where's the fire?" he hollered.

Three managers of chicken farms in Canada were being questioned by the Gestapo. "What do you feed your chickens?" the first was asked.

"Corn."

"You're under arrest! Corn is needed to feed the people."

The second manager, having overheard the conversation, tried to play safe.

"What do you feed your chickens," came the question.

"Corn husks."

"You're under arrest! Corn husks are needed to make cloth, and you!" demanded the questioner, turning to the third man.

"I give my chickens the money and tell them to go buy their own feed."

Tannery Agrees to 8 Cent Hour Raise

TORONTO (CPA).—After 98 days of negotiations, which included a 24-hour walk-out, and the appointment of a conciliator, Beardmore & Co., Acton, the largest tanners in the British Empire, have concluded an agreement with the National Union of Shoe and Leather Workers, CCLA, Local 26, which will result in an approximate increase of eight cents per hour.

Two Weeks' Holidays

A minimum of two statutory holidays were agreed to, with an assurance that this number would be increased from year to year; also two weeks' vacation with pay to the more senior employees.

The company has agreed to set up within three months, a 45-hour working week, and to pay 49 hours for such a week. When this is done minimum will be established on a graduated scale, of from 45 to 50 cents per hour.

Provision has been made for individual adjustments in all cases.

WAR'S AFTERMATH



Children of Europe still scream sometimes when the lights are turned out. They remember the air-raids. Disease, especially tuberculosis, is taking a cruel toll of little bodies weakened by inadequate diets. This boy is being cared for in a Prague sanatorium, to which the Unitarian Service Committee sends medical supplies and food bought with Canadian and American funds.

European Children Still Need Help From Canada

OTTAWA, (CPA).—"What will happen to Europe after UNRRA goes?"

Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova, red-haired, vibrant Czech-Slovakian journalist and social work director, put the question anxiously on her return from a nine-weeks tour of her home-land and France. She lost a pound a week on the European diet.

"Conditions are much worse than I expected," Dr. Hitschmanova said, "and soon only a few charitable organizations like our own (the Unitarian Service Committee) will be left to help those people."

"One has to go and see—and eat that heavy, poor-quality bread—to know what the need is and the moving gratitude of the people for our help, which is never enough."

Foster parents in Canada, who for a contribution of \$45 keep a destitute child in a Unitarian hostel for three months, have given 780 European children their chance for recovery, Dr. Hitschmanova said. In October she will begin a west-to-east tour under the auspices of the Canadian Club, to raise \$50,000 more for the foster parent scheme.

Some of the Unitarian hostels

in southern France have many Spanish children in their care—republican refugees from Franco's regime. As aliens, they have no claim on the government of France and their plight is often pitiful.

Canadian Foster Parents
In charge of one Unitarian hostel were eight college girls—four American and four French. They had eighty French and Spanish children in their charge during the summer season.

Letters from Canadian foster parents to the Unitarian office reveal the keen interest awakened by photographs and case histories of their little charges-by-proxy. Extra parcels are frequently sent. One woman writes, "I'm not sure what would be most useful... Perhaps a three-year-old would like a teddy bear more than a cake of soap, but is that practical?"

Many have asked the Unitarian Committee to arrange a legal adoption. But Czech-Slovakian and French governments want to keep their children, to help restore lost populations and rebuild their devastated homelands. Help for the children in their own countries is the policy of the Unitarian Committee, and Dr. Hitschmanova is confident that, if the need is known, help will be given to meet it.

Sask. Removes

(Continued from page 1)

tax to purchases of "food and drink for human consumption" would end at that time, as declared by section 3 of the Act Amending the Education Tax Act, passed at the 1946 session of the provincial legislature.

Specifically, the amending act removes the tax from groceries of all kinds, meats, fruits, vegetables, soft drinks, candy and confectionery, and on all meals and lunches.

The term, "drink," Mr. Fines pointed out, "does not include spirituous, malt or vinous liquors; these remain subject to the education tax."

\$2 Million More for People

Mr. Fines said that the government's action not only meets "a widespread popular demand in removing this most onerous and irk-

some feature of regressive tax; but it takes a step toward fulfillment of its pledge to the people—a first step, and only a step, yet a step which means a saving to Saskatchewan homes of an estimated \$2,000,000 annually.

(During his budget speech in the legislature last spring, Mr. Fines pointed out that removal of the tax on foodstuffs would mean a drop in revenues of \$2,000,000 annually, with a decrease of \$1,000,000 for the present fiscal year, as the legislation was going into effect September 30.)

In making the announcement, Mr. Fines said that while "new sources of revenue were taking form as the government's development program progresses, 'these were not sufficient yet to warrant complete abolition of a tax capable of yielding \$5,000,000 a year.'"

"However, these new revenue sources had 'made their contribution to the present reduction.' Primary factors making this substantial cut in taxation possible at this time were: 'the sweeping economies effected in departmental administration through increased efficiency and other means; the prudent handling of the province's financial affairs, and the buoyant revenues reflecting the improved economic condition of the people generally.'"

Venezuela is the northernmost nation in South America,

GLASS

By Clifford E. Lee

A DIAMOND weighing a pound would be worth a million dollars. A pound of glass is worth only a few cents. Yet from the social standpoint glass is more valuable than rubies. Without it most of the achievements of science would have been impossible.

A characteristic of early science was the degree to which chance took a part. The discovery of glass was a sheer accident.

About 4000 B.C. the Phoenicians lived on an island in the Mediterranean off the coast of what is now the country of Greece. They were a great commercial people for their day. They sailed their ships along the coast of Africa and brought back nitrate. This mineral was in the form of blocks and loading it on the ships was a big job.

It was the custom to hold a big celebration when the ships returned to Phoenicia.

This took the form of a feast. Huge bonfires were built on the beach, wild game roasted. Usually a fire-pit was built in a depression in the sand and surrounded by large stones. However on one occasion somebody had the idea of surrounding the fire with nitrate blocks instead of stones.

The First Glass
Here, by the accident of the stone-gatherers' laziness, there came together the elements that would make glass, the first meeting of nitrate, sand, and fire. In the midst of the barbecue it was discovered that a semi-liquid material was flowing around the fire-pit. It became very hard and translucent after it cooled. This was the first glass.

The impressed revellers took the material home to their alchemists. Soon the Phoenicians were manufacturing crude glass and exporting it to other countries. Later the Egyptians conquered them, took over the art, made improvements in the product. Still later the Romans were victorious against the Egyptians. They gathered up the glass workers, took them back to Rome, set them up on an island across the river from Venice. It was here that the long famous Venetian glass was created.

Although accident still plays a part, on the whole the science of today moves forward along deliberate lines. We know a great deal about the structure of matter, are able to predict what certain combinations of atoms will produce.

Pyrex Glass
One of the most romantic episodes in the development of modern glass is the story of Pyrex. Railwaymen were handicapped by the fact that raindrops on the chimneys of their lanterns

caused breakage. This was due to the degree of expansion and contraction due to temperature changes in ordinary glass. Researchers got busy to produce a glass which would expand very much less when heated. They found borax added to the glass had this effect. But the first batch of the new glass dissolved in water. It took seven years of planned work to produce "pyrex" glass which can even be used as an oven utensil.

We may today be only started in the utilization of this remarkable material. But we use it now to make insulators, frying pans, fireproof cloth which is warm and soft. Glass is even used to make springboards for swimming pools.

If glass were not so brittle it would be one of the strongest materials known. A two-inch cube of glass is strong enough to hold up a loaded freight car. A thread of glass thin as a spider web can support a greater weight than can a steel piano wire of the same size.

Heat-Insulator

A single pound of glass can be drawn out into three thousand miles of fibre, less than one-tenth the diameter of the finest hair. This fibre, piled together in a bat of "glass-wool" makes a remarkable heat-insulator. Four inches of it inside the walls of a wooden house gives as much insulation against heat and cold as a wall of concrete ten feet thick.

Any student of the economics of housing realizes that we require something different in the way of materials if we are to provide better housing at cheaper prices. Glass, made from sand, may be one of the answers. For a number of reasons, privately financed research is not likely to explore this field. A home builder is putting his life's savings into a house. He cannot afford to experiment.

The original National Housing Act appropriated certain sums for research in housing. At last report little of the money had been used.

Perhaps we might hope that the possibilities of glass in housing might be explored by government initiative, and the results made available to the people whose tax money is paying for the research.

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"Personal Stuff"

(Continued from page 1)

public payroll as it does all its faithful political servants, was angry at the A.F.U., and proceeded to show it.

Its first chance for revenge came during the session of the legislature. It must have seemed almost a Heaven-sent break. The A.F.U. executive came before the Agricultural Committee to give general support to the Labor brief, on the basis that adequate purchasing power in the hands of Labor meant greater prosperity for the farmer. The cabinet ministers were waiting for the kill. The Attorney General had a list of trick questions ready to fire at the A.F.U. officers that would have done credit to the kind of police court prosecutor seen in the movies. And when questions and answers taken from their context were published in the newspapers to discredit the A.F.U. officers, and the President of the A.F.U. gave an explanation to the press, he was summoned like any criminal to appear before the committee. It was a disgraceful procedure. The officers of the A.F.U. appeared before their elected public servants. They presented their views in a respectful, courteous way. They were treated not as citizens but as interlopers, or as the Veterans' Member said, as criminals. And when the cabinet ministers finished putting them through a wringer, some of the back benches took over, notably the man Ure from Innisfail whose inflammatory statement of the present crisis was reported in a letter to this paper last week.

Then came the projected strike, to be called by the A.F.U. A last minute appeal was sent to the Prime Minister in Ottawa asking him to give assurance that the eminently reasonable request of the farmers would be granted. This assurance from Mr. King would have prevented the strike. It was at this time that the government decided to strike its second blow of revenge. It came in the form of the Manning statement attacking the projected non-delivery protest. And now we see the curious situation in which the government is quoting the statements of U.F.A. members against the A.F.U., the same U.F.A. which it plotted against when it was backing the A.F.U. Whatever else the farm strike has done it certainly has served to make clear as day the path upon which present-day Social Credit officialdom is travelling.

Farmers Score

(Continued from page 1)

are, the result would probably open their eyes and shut their mouths." Where there has been criticism it had come from the leaders and not from the rank and file who are with the A.F.U., he declared.

Contending that this first effort at direct action had unified Alberta farmers as nothing had done before, Mr. Young estimated that at least sixty thousand farmers are supporting the strike which constitutes a majority of the farmers of Alberta.

Farmers Know Their Friends "Another very interesting effect of the strike," said Mr. Young, "is the way in which it has shown who is on the farmers' side, and who is indifferent or opposed to us. We have men who are holding various positions of

leadership in different capacities throughout the province. Some have come wholeheartedly to our support, some have maintained a sort of uneasy and wabbling seat on the fence, while others criticized and opposed us. It is very well indeed that the farmers of Alberta should know where the men who hold responsible positions stand. We have found out much, and we shall not forget in the days to come."

The A.F.U. speaker hit out at the daily press, which, he claimed, has throughout the strike, "consistently played up everything contrary to our cause and ignored everything favorable." As an example of journalistic bias, he stated that the press continually harped on the fact that there were only twenty thousand members on strike, completely ignoring the fact that the membership had greatly increased since the strike began and that the A.F.U. was also getting support from thousands of non-members.

Mr. Young referred also to the fact that the daily press had deliberately played up the comparatively few cases of strike violence. The A.F.U. deplored violence and had asked police to avoid it, in spite of provocation which might be offered. He emphasized that for the number of people involved, the strike had been very orderly and "newspaper attempts to make it seem otherwise merely show a complete lack of honesty on the part of the daily press." He also cited the playing up of a statement by Henry Kelley of Millet.

Mr. Young declared that the daily press "is part and parcel of the forces which have profited by keeping agriculture in subjection. We do not expect any help from our exploiters and those instances prove the truth of what I have said."

Canadian agriculture's share of the national income had varied from five per cent in 1932 to about 18 per cent at the present time, he claimed. These facts, he said, "explain the slum conditions which prevail on the majority of Canadian farms where in most cases modern conveniences are unknown." Labor had fared little better than the farmer, he observed, in referring to the steel workers who had been on strike since July to establish a basic wage of \$33.60 per week.

Profits Soar

On the other hand, it had been established that the profits of Canadian corporations were the highest in history. He referred to an article published in the Toronto Star on July 23 in which it was shown that Canadian corporations paid dividends for the first seven months of 1946, of over \$171,000,000, an increase of \$10½ million over the same period in 1945. He stated that the profits of the Massey Harris Company were over \$7,700,000 in 1945. Yet, he said, this same company is now demanding a further increase in the price of farm machinery. "And," he added, "they will probably get it unless the farmers all over Canada wake up and take action." These machinery companies pointed to higher labor costs, but Mr. Young claimed that the productivity of labor had greatly increased. He referred to the fact that the Algoma Steel Company's figures showed that while in 1939, the output of steel was 67 tons per worker, in 1945, it had increased to 183 tons, and the labor cost per ton had decreased from \$18.00 to \$13.00.

"There is probably no greater scandal in Canada today than the price of farm machinery," he declared, "but it is simply one part of a nation-wide sys-

tem of legalized robbery and exploitation."

For Human Rights

As a remedy for this state of affairs, Mr. Young maintained that the share of the national wealth which goes to profits must be reduced, so that the share of the workers can be increased. "The exploiters," he said, "must fight the last ditch to maintain their profits. This strike is the first round of a battle for human rights. The first round may be tough, but we are working for the future, and we must never quit." The great benefit of the strike, he said, is that "it has demonstrated that farmers can work together and has shown us the power of collective action by an organized body of people."

We have been passing resolutions for a long time, he observed, "but little attention was paid to them because our governments did not believe that we would act to enforce our demands." "For example," he said, "last December we presented some 30 resolutions to the provincial governments, and to date we have got action on exactly none of them. Knowing this, one can quite understand the provincial government's coolness toward the strike. It would be a very effective weapon to get action on a government which may have to be used."

Begins and Ends with Talk

In calling on the farmers to put forth every effort to build a strong well financed farm organization to fight for their rights, he declared that the weakness of the present Canadian Federation of Agriculture is that "it begins and ends with talk and has no method of enforcing its decisions upon the politicians. Then too, the Federation tends to be dominated by the officers of the various agricultural Co-ops who are not directly responsible to the man on the land." He emphasized that "unless these weaknesses can be corrected, we shall have to start again and build a National Farm Union based upon direct membership all across Canada. After that, an alliance with organized labor will give the common people control of Canada."

Referring to the tens of thousands of young men who fought for democracy during the recent war, Mr. Young said, "We have a responsibility to them to see that the lives of this generation shall not be ruined and wasted as thousands were in the hungry thirties. If we are not prepared to act, we shall see more of the ruin and destitution of that time. To all farmers I say, let us unite and prepare for action before it is too late. If you want parity, be ready to fight for it."

Government Flouts

(Continued from page 1)

protest of Parliament and an indignant uproar from consumers throughout the land.

Producers Need More

The farmers, through the Federation of Agriculture and other organized bodies, argued for a continuation of the subsidy, at least in part. Milk producers were able to prove that the price had to go up to some extent anyway, to cover their costs. Scotty Bryce, C.C.F. M.P. for Selkirk, told the House of Commons in graphic fashion this summer how the dairy business is passing into the hands of small farmers who exploit their wives and children to do the necessary drudgery. The big dairy man just couldn't make it pay with any decent living return for himself or his hired men.

The farmer demands a better price, but he did ask the government to continue to absorb part of it. He assumes that he can get rid of his product for a time at least, because of the large demand not only for fluid milk but for cheese and butter.

Predict Drop in Consumption But those who have some expert knowledge of the urban family budget unanimously predict an immediate drop in milk consumption. Here are the people who, they say, will be forced to buy less milk.

The industrial worker whose

wages have dropped since the end of the war counts his grocery bill as an "elastic" item as compared to such fixed items as rent. He does not always buy all the milk the family needs; when he has less income he buys less. This was illustrated dramatically in the increase of milk consumption after family allowances were introduced. But even now the average consumption across Canada is less than the desirable minimum. At 15 cents a quart for each child each day, about two-thirds of the family allowance would be spent on milk alone. This isn't likely to happen because the child must also have clothes and other foods and medical care, all at inflated prices.

The old-age pensioner and other pensioners, living on a pittance, have considered cheap milk their staple food. But they will be forced to buy less, because some have only about ten dollars to cover all their food for an entire month.

Apprehensive

Relief organizations who provide free milk, and who are already operating on limited budgets, have told the press that they will be obliged to buy less.

The Welfare Councils are very apprehensive. "So many of our people run very close to the margin," one Ottawa welfare worker said, when interviewed, "I am certain that many children will get their cups filled with half milk and half water when the price goes up."

Not Blaming Each Other

Now there are some farmers who think city workers are comparatively well off, and never complain at costs until the farmer asks for a fair price for his product.

And there are some city workers who think the farmer is a lot better off than he pretends to be.

But in the main the chief contestants in this battle over milk are not blaming each other. They are casting some pretty sharp glances in the direction of the milk distributor, who uses sixteen horses and carts down every city block, where one would do, and who is getting an estimated 20% of the present increase.

And most of all they are united

in criticizing the government, the nation as a whole, for retiring from the picture and leaving the "little people" at both ends of the deal, to suffer the consequences of this return to free enterprise.

T.L.C. OPPOSED TO U.S. INTERFERENCE

WINDSOR, (CPA).—As the 61st annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada convened under the chairmanship of President Percy R. Bengough, the 900 assembled delegates lost no time in learning that stiff opposition will be taken to any interference with Canadian union autonomy. The opening speech of President Bengough made this plain.

"While we do not look or hope for any ill feeling from any of our affiliated unions, we feel it is our duty to protect our sovereign rights and we will resist to the utmost any usurpation of our constituted authority," the T.L.C. leader emphasized.

The warning contained in the president's words had reference to the reported split in the Congress over the question of affiliation of some unions with the American Federation of Labor. One of these, the machinists' union, has been expelled from the A.F. of L. for non-payment of dues. Mr. Bengough is a member of this union and it was freely predicted on the floor of the convention that his authority to preside would be challenged.

Describing present government policy as indicating "screwball thinking" on the part of someone at Ottawa, Bengough assailed the nation's foreign trade and wages policy.

"It is strange," he declared, "how we can give money to citizens of other countries to enable them to buy Canadian goods . . . at the same time contending that increasing the buying power of our own citizens would cause inflation and bring calamity."

Teacher: "Willie, what are heathens?"

Willie: "Heathens are people who don't quarrel over religion."

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